

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2001-04

WHEREAS, flood statements issued by the National Weather Service call for Devils Lake to continue its historic rise, threatening nearby lands and Stump Lake; and

WHEREAS, forecasts also indicate a strong probability exists for the Red River of the North, the Sheyenne, and the Pembina River to rise above moderate flood stage at key gauging locations; and

WHEREAS, flooding has already occurred in the Souris, James, and Red River basins; and

WHEREAS, forecasters base the flood potential on above normal fall precipitation and winter snow pack and a high soil moisture content, compounded by eight years of prior flooding; and

WHEREAS, these conditions will result in a higher than average runoff volumes in many areas; and

WHEREAS, past and current moisture systems threaten to cause water seepage, damaging groundwater saturation, and flooding, which would result in serious damage to private and public property, such as sewage and water systems and transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, potential agricultural and recreation industry losses, expenditures for damage repair, as well as private and business losses, will constitute a serious economic hardship throughout the entire state; and

WHEREAS, actions are necessary to reduce the economic hardships, to address threats to public health and safety, and to support local response efforts; and

WHEREAS, 1, John Hoeven, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of North Dakota, have declared an emergency for the State of North Dakota.

NOW THEREFORE, I order the full utilization of the North Dakota Emergency Operations Plan, its procedures, attachments, and appendices to respond to the situation, develop a detailed situation assessment, alleviate hardships, and implement appropriate response actions to support local governments and to limit the hardships and impact of this emergency.

This order is issued upon the following bases and for the following reasons:

- 1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1, of the North Dakota Constitution.
- 2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders, minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code.
- 3. A coordinated and effective effort of appropriate government departments is required to minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters in this state.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 6th day of April 2001.

/s/ John Hoeven Governor

Attest: /s/ Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State